

Docket No.: 578492000510  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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In re Patent Application of:  
Rodolfo A. MORALES et al.

Application No.: 10/776,682

Confirmation No.: 3785

Filed: February 10, 2004

Art Unit: 3773

For: DEVICES AND METHODS FOR HEART  
VALVE REPAIR

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Examiner: M. Ryckman

**COMMUNICATION ENCLOSING EXTENSION OF TIME AND FEE ASSOCIATED  
WITH REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) FILED ON APRIL 14, 2009**

MS RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Madam:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This Communication is being filed in follow up to the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed electronically on April 14, 2009, for which a response was due on April 12, 2009. Applicants inadvertently omitted the Petition for Extension of Time in this filing. However, Applicants previously authorized the charge of any payments due for extensions of time, and the attached copy of the Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt confirms such authorization. (See a copy of the Acknowledgment stating "Charge any additional Fees required under 37 CFR Section 1.17 (Patent application and reexamination processing fees)"). However, as a precaution Applicants are filing concurrently herewith the Petition and fee for a one (1) month extension of time, thereby extending the deadline for response up to and including May 2, 2009. Accordingly the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed on April 14, 2009 was timely filed and should be deemed proper.

For the Examiner's convenience Applicants submit a copy of the RCE as filed on April 14, 2009, including a copy of the Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt as retrieved off PAIRS.

If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 578492000510. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: April 17, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

By  
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